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Russian and Prussian alike. The talents of Gneisenau are frankly acknowledged: his disposition, however, Langeron found repulsive. Muffling, who rivaled Gneisenau in ability, was amiable as well. Langeron's praise of the Prussians — princes, officers, and soldiery — in this contest is almost unmixed. "Never," he says, "did military honor reach a higher level." They had but one fault, insufferable arrogance. Even to Muffling, Langeron, then a veteran of twenty years in the Russian service, was, merely by reason of his French origin, repugnant. In this feeling Langeron's ignorance of German played a rôle, especially with Blücher, whose ignorance of French, unusual in a Prussian officer, debarred free intercourse with his Russo-French subordinate.

The volume is replete with the incidents which lend interest to works of its class. At Düben on October 9, 1813, Blücher and Langeron escaped capture by a narrow half-hour, and only as a result of Blücher's fondness for the chase. At Leipzig it fell to Langeron's lot to receive the Saxon regiments which deserted Napoleon on October 18; and on the following day, at imminent peril to his own life, he witnessed, from the bank of the Elster, the tragic death of his personal friend Poniatowski. Langeron's greatest achievement was the destruction of an entire French division 25,000 strong at the Katzbach and Loewenberg, August 26-29, 1813. This event and Napoleon's retreat in 1812 are the subjects of the editor's introduction, a careful study based upon public records at Paris, St. Petersburg, Vienna, and Dresden. A number of interesting documents from these sources, including Jomini's letters of resignation to Napoleon and Berthier, are included in the volume.

H. M. BOWMAN.

American Diplomacy in the Orient. By JOHN WATSON FOSTER.
(New York and Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, and Company.
1903. Pp. xiv, 498.)

IT is our Pacific orient that Mr. Foster means by this title, China, Japan, and the islands, not Turkey or Persia. Why our occident has been so universally called our orient, it is difficult to say. Perhaps because we sailed eastward to reach it or because we simply adopted the European term and point of view.

American diplomacy has largely concerned itself with commercial and private interests rather than with high politics, and in consequence a thoroughgoing history of it would be a dull affair. But by selection and treatment Mr. Foster's book has been made anything but dull. In his desire to be interesting he even seems to shrink sometimes from the full enumeration of those treaty provisions which are the results of diplomacy. Thus in the treaty of 1833 with Siam three lines are given to the treaty stipulations (p. 50), while the topics of opium trade prohibition, the prohibition of importing arms and of exporting rice, and the most favored nation clause in respect of duties are all omitted, though surely we would be glad to know why the question of opium in Siam was thus early treated.

In the dread of being dull, in the desire for picturesqueness, as it seems to me, Mr. Foster has been led now and then into a want of proportion between the trivial and the essential, between the amusing or interesting details of our diplomatic adventures in the Pacific, and the serious sum and substance of their results. It is a question also, for the sake of a clear and continuous narrative, whether the dealings with each country should not have been related from beginning to end. The form adopted has been to give a chapter to the early Chinese treaties, then one to our first dealings with Japan, then a description of Hawaii as an independent state, and so on. However, on the other hand, we are introduced to these backward countries at the same stage of their development, so that we get a comparative study of their progress, which is very likely more important than a continuous view.

Mr. Foster's account of our relations with China is clear and fair-minded. While emphasizing sufficiently the curious fact that American exclusion of the Chinese in these later days so closely parallels the exclusion of foreigners which China would practice if she could, he does justice to those numerous instances of good-will for China displayed by this country which show that, compared with others, the United States has been truly a friend. Thus the American merchants repaid duties suspended during the Taiping rebellion; the United States returned a portion of the Canton indemnity; it always supported the Chinese endeavor to forbid the import of opium, in contrast to British policy; it has only twice used force against China in spite of provocation; and Mr. Hay's recent course has been in line with these precedents of friendliness. Twice have our presidents vetoed anti-Chinese legislation; twice has the general government paid indemnity for anti-Chinese riots; once only has drastic domestic legislation violated treaty, and then after a brief interval it was legalized by treaty. So that on the whole we may say that in spite of local prejudice against the Chinese and of statutes dictated by that dislike, the attitude of the general government has been correct. Chinese statesmen have realized that the United States has had no sinister designs upon Chinese territory. And Li Hung Chang's statement that the German aggressiveness in Kiauchau was more than any other one thing the cause of the Boxer outbreak, quoted by Mr. Foster (p. 416), is in the same line. That missionaries have been objected to, not as propagating a hostile religious belief, but solely as foreigners, and not more disliked than foreign merchants, is forcibly declared. In fact Mr. Foster does ample justice, though no more than justice, to the part played by the American missionaries Williams, Martin, Allen in Corea, Gutzloff, and others in our earlier diplomacy. It may be added that Mr. Foster's own service under the Chinese government, as well as under our own, gives his views peculiar interest and value.

American diplomatic intercourse with China, such as it was, came about as the natural outgrowth of a growing trade and the necessity for its regulation and protection. There was nothing forced about it. With Japan, however, it was different. Perry's expedition was a positive first

breach in Japanese exclusiveness. His expedition and negotiations furnish Mr. Foster with the details for a dramatic narrative, well made use of. Here, too, American friendship to Japan is clearly set forth, culminating in our readiness to permit treaty revision which should cast off the shackles of a tariff set by the importer and of extraterritorial jurisdiction, a revision necessarily to be undertaken only in connection with our commercial rivals, and in point of fact not accepted by them until after the war with China in 1894. The effect of this war upon the international position of Japan is noted. But perhaps Mr. Foster might have added the reflection that in the divergent courses of China and Japan, the one rejecting, the other making use of modern ideas, we have a striking illustration of the fact that even to-day the position of a state in political society is the position that it has the power to enforce, and no more. Military power, or the possession of resources convertible into such power, is still the criterion of international status. Japan has been able to perform its international duties and insist upon its rights; China has been unable to do either.

Our relations with Hawaii are well set forth. The temptation to annex these favored islands seems to have been irresistible with half the European squadrons which visited them. That the United States could permit no such step is made clear. But that one administration after another disclaimed any desire to annex the Hawaiian Islands is not brought out. Yet with the exception of Mr. Marcy's oft-quoted despatch of 1853, there is hardly a state paper treating the question, from 1840 to the overthrow of the monarchy, which does not express this idea. Nor does Mr. Foster bring out the technical fault of American recognition of the new government in 1893, the day after the revolution, before the rest of Oahu and the other islands could show whether the new government had popular support or not. This was in violation of our usage in such cases.

These, however, are minor criticisms. The book is clearly and interestingly written, is eminently fair-minded, and should be read by those who desire knowledge of our relations with a part of the world whose future line of development is still so obscure. But that these relations are likely to be closer than ever before and to be fraught with great consequences to this country, we cannot avoid believing.

THEODORE S. WOOLSEY.

The True Abraham Lincoln. By WILLIAM ELEROY CURTIS. (Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1903. Pp. xiv, 409.)

A "true" biography without scandal is indeed a novelty, but this is the only strikingly original feature of Mr. Curtis's book. The author forbends criticism on this point, however, by stating that there were "no mysteries in his career to excite curiosity." "Of such a man, wrote a well-known writer, the last word can never be said. Each succeeding generation may profit by the contemplation of his strength and triumph."